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# Washington University Record, September 1, 2006

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# Record

Sept. 1, 2006

Volume 31 No. 4



Washington University in St. Louis

## McDonnell Academy welcomes 17 scholars

By EILEEN P. DUGGAN

**T**he McDonnell International Scholars Academy is welcoming this fall 17 students as its first cohort of highly select graduate and professional students from 12 of Asia's leading universities.

The academy, a unique global education and research initiative, partners with universities and corporations around the world to provide the scholars with an extraordinary educational experience.

"Scholars from highly respected partner universities are selected based on their promise to become future leaders in govern-

ment, academia, the professions or in business," Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton said.

"Each McDonnell Academy scholar has a one-of-a-kind opportunity to study and to experience American culture and people in a great university in the heart of America," said James V. Wertsch, Ph.D., the Marshall S. Snow Professor in Arts & Sciences and director of the McDonnell International Scholars Academy.

"They'll also form relationships and create an international network of fellow scholars that will serve them throughout their careers. But just as they learn from us, we hope to learn from them and to listen to what they

can tell us. In today's world, powerful forces of globalization have been unleashed, and we all need to understand them and each other."

Each student is matched to a faculty mentor who also serves as an "ambassador" to the university partner from which the student is enrolled. The ambassador-mentor assists in the scholar's academic and professional life and will travel annually with the scholar to the partner university to build relationships between that institution and Washington University.

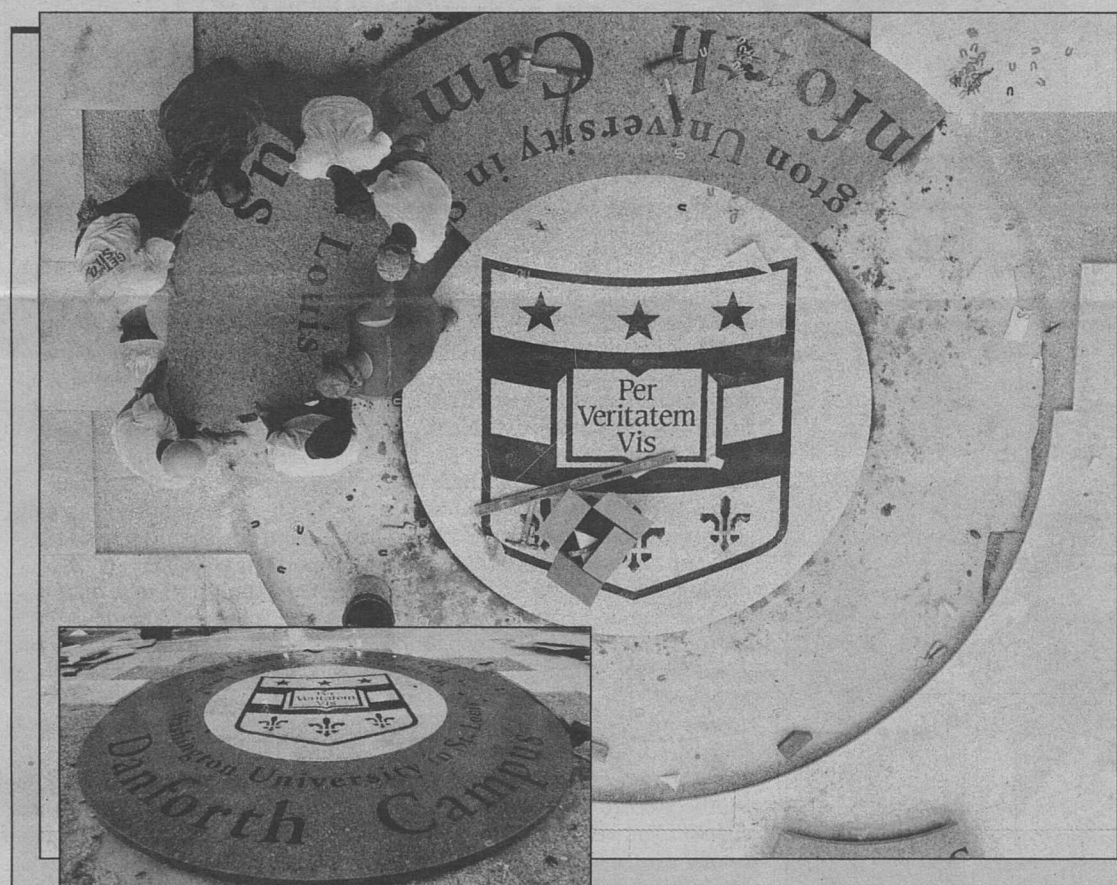
The academy scholars are funded by a sustaining endowment gift from John F. McDon-

See **Academy**, Page 7



Ziyan Zhang and Yanjiao Xie, both of Peking University, visit outside the two furnished apartment buildings at Pershing Avenue and Skinker Boulevard where most of the McDonnell Academy scholars reside.

JOE ANGELES



**Medal of honor** Workers install a granite medallion at the center of Danforth Plaza on the east side of Brookings Hall. The medallion, which is 16 feet in diameter, welcomes visitors to the campus, to be named the Danforth Campus in honor of Chancellor Emeritus William H. Danforth, his late wife, Elizabeth (Ibby) Gray Danforth, the Danforth family and the Danforth Foundation in a Sept. 17 ceremony. In the next few days workers will be completing the Danforth Plaza, which will include a fountain, new landscaping, benches and bronze plaques that recognize their contributions to the University. (David Kilper photos)

## El Hombre vs. The Babe

### Researchers test how Pujols stacks up against Ruth

By GERRY EVERDING

**B**aseball purists, especially those of Yankee allegiance, might argue that St. Louis Cardinals homerun-hitting superstar Albert Pujols is simply not in the same league as legendary New York Yankees slugger Babe Ruth.

It's an argument that science may never resolve fully, but WUSTL researchers now can offer at least some hard numbers on how Pujols compares to Babe Ruth in terms of the perceptual and motor skills necessary to consistently hit balls out of the park.

Pujols visited the University in April to take part in laboratory tests similar to those conducted on Ruth one summer afternoon in 1921 by Columbia University graduate students. Results of the Pujols testing, conducted at the request of a *GQ* magazine reporter, are detailed in a story that appears in the magazine's September issue.

"This spring, *GQ* persuaded Albert Pujols, reigning National League MVP and the game's most dom-

inant slugger, to take time off from an epic home-run tear and reenact, at Washington University in St. Louis, the 1921 Babe Ruth tests," writes Nate Penn, author of the *GQ* article, titled "Performance: How to Build the Perfect Batter."

The Pujols tests were conducted by faculty in Arts & Sciences and in the School of Medicine, including Richard Abrams, Ph.D., professor; Desiree White, Ph.D., associate professor; and David Balota, Ph.D., professor — all in the Department of Psychology; and Catherine Lang, Ph.D., assistant professor of physical therapy, neurology and occupational therapy.

Pujols, like Ruth, was asked to demonstrate his hitting form while hooked up to various machines that monitored the strength and speed of his swing. Pujols, complaining of a strained back, may have held back a bit on some of the tests, but his results compared favorably with those of Ruth.

In terms of sheer batting speed, Pujols swung his

See **Pujols**, Page 2

## New company uses fruit flies to screen diabetes, cancer drugs

By GWEN ERICSON

**A** new St. Louis-based company will use a novel technology to rapidly screen thousands of drugs for their effectiveness against two of the biggest health threats in the United States — diabetes and cancer.

Ross Cagan, Ph.D., professor of molecular biology and pharmacology at the School of Medicine, and Thomas Baranski, M.D., Ph.D., professor of medicine, will head the company, called Medros Inc.

The company's technology can identify drugs with medical benefit by capitalizing on extensive information currently available about fruit fly biology and genetics.

Launched with the joint backing of the School of Medicine and BioGenerator, a nonprofit group formed to help spawn biotech companies from university research, Medros soon will begin operation in the Center for Emerging Technologies in St. Louis.

The company arose from a collaboration between Cagan and Baranski, who is also an endocri-

ologist at Barnes-Jewish Hospital. Cagan showed Baranski a method developed in his lab for determining if a drug could correct abnormal development in the

eyes of fruit flies. Impressed with the concept, Baranski asked if it could be adapted to screen for drugs that could alleviate the complications of diabetes.

"People with diabetes can go blind, their kidneys can fail and their nerves can die," Baranski said. "We don't have any good drugs for counteracting these effects. We know that high blood

sugar contributes to these

problems, so I went to

Ross and asked if his fruit

fly system could uncover

why high glucose can be

toxic."

This challenge led to a

full-fledged screening sys-

tem in which fruit flies,

grown from eggs to adults

in tiny chambers, serve

as indicators of a drug's

effect. In this instance,

if a fruit fly can grow

normally on a high-sugar

diet in the presence of

a particular drug, the

drug potentially could

lessen the toxicity of high

sugar in diabetics, Baran-

ski said.

Using fruit flies for

drug screening is fast and

inexpensive because the flies'

short life spans and small size

allow quick turnaround and mul-

tiplie simultaneous tests in a small

space. Furthermore, the tech-

nique determines a drug's effect

on the whole organism, not on

isolated cells.

The researchers are confident

that their fruit fly model parallels

human physiology to a great ex-

tent. Molecular pathways that

play a role in diabetes and cancer

are present in both humans and

fruit flies, Cagan said.

In addition, the researchers

said they feel their approach may

be superior to more traditional

approaches that go after one dis-

ease target, such as a chemothera-

peutic drug that aims to influence

one gene responsible for cancer-

See **Medros**, Page 6



Baranski



Cagan

**The researchers are confident that their fruit fly model parallels human physiology to a great extent.**

nologist at Barnes-Jewish Hospital. Cagan showed Baranski a method developed in his lab for determining if a drug could correct abnormal development in the



## American Culture Studies expands, integrates social thought program

**S**ocial Thought & Analysis (STA), an interdisciplinary degree program in Arts & Sciences, has moved to American Culture Studies, said Henry L. "Roddy" Roediger III, Ph.D., the James S. McDonnell Distinguished University Professor and dean of academic planning in Arts & Sciences.

Created in the early 1990s to enhance integrated social science teaching and research at the University, "the program has provided an excellent undergraduate major, fostered faculty collaboration, sponsored seminars and workshops and brought many interesting visitors to campus," Roediger said.

These important activities will continue, he said, but in a new way, through collaborations with the American Culture Studies Program in Arts & Sciences. In the future, the University community may expect even wider representation of social science perspectives across disciplines, Roediger added.

The expansion of American Culture Studies, the emergence of International and Area Studies and the developing program in urban studies are all providing the opportunity to fulfill STA's original mission, said John R. Bowen, Ph.D., the Dunbar-Van Cleave Professor in Arts & Sciences and chair and professor of the Social Thought & Analysis program.

"The merging of STA and American Culture Studies is a sign of the vitality of social science research at Washington University and the growing belief across the campus that some of the most ex-

citing opportunities for developing new knowledge require social science methods and insights," Bowen said.

Roediger said that the move resulted from faculty discussions last spring to broaden the scope of American Culture Studies' offerings in the social sciences and to incorporate STA's central role in the new scholarly profile.

In the new arrangement, STA constitutes a concentration within American Culture Studies, similar to the Immigration and Ethnic Studies track. The reconfigured program includes close collaborations with the Center for Urban Research and Public Policy and its emerging urban studies major, as well as with International and Area Studies.

"Because American Culture Studies requires an additional major in a traditional discipline, this change will also strengthen ties with academic departments and make for a truly multidisciplinary, integrated experience for students and faculty," Roediger said.

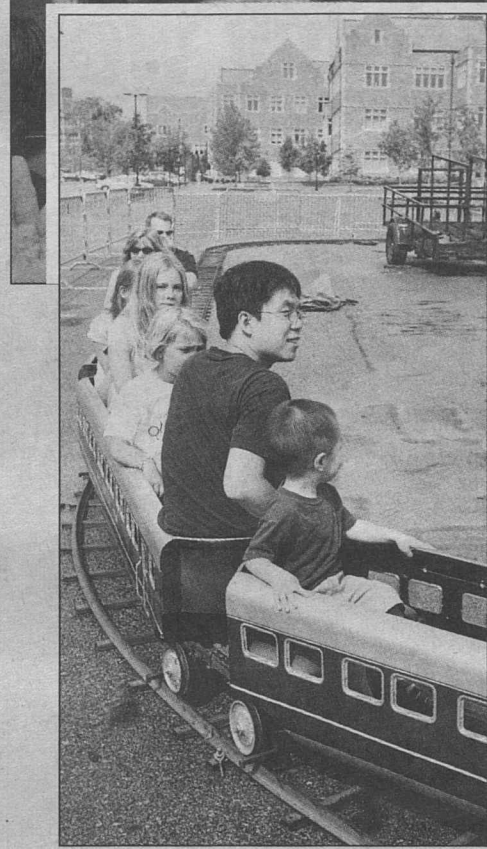
While the transition is taking place, current STA majors will be able to fulfill their original plans, and all required STA courses will be offered until those majors have graduated, Bowen said.

Future students will have access to a wider range of resources and opportunities, with faculty and staff in American Culture Studies providing organizational and advising support.

Students interested in such opportunities should contact Margaret L. Brown, Ph.D., academic coordinator for American Culture Studies, at mbrown@wustl.edu.



**Wait is over** Above, Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton waves to bystanders during the inaugural ride celebrating the opening of the MetroLink Cross County Extension Aug. 26. Wrighton rode the length of the extension, which began regular service Aug. 28. He delivered several speeches along the eight-mile route before disembarking at the Shrewsbury-Landsdowne I-44 station.



The University hosted its own Grand Opening Celebration Aug. 26 in the northeast corner of the Brookings parking lot. Activities included a miniature train ride for children, as well as arts and crafts, music and refreshments.

(Mary Butkus photos)

## Pujols

*Can science predict next sports superstars?*  
— from Page 1

preferred 31.5-ounce bat at a speed of 86.99 mph. Ruth, on the other hand, using a 54-ounce bat, swung at an estimated speed of 75 mph.

"Making exact comparisons between the Pujols and Ruth test results is difficult because the tests given to Ruth were not very well normed," White suggested. "But it's clear that both Ruth and Pujols performed well above average on a number of tests that are very similar in nature."

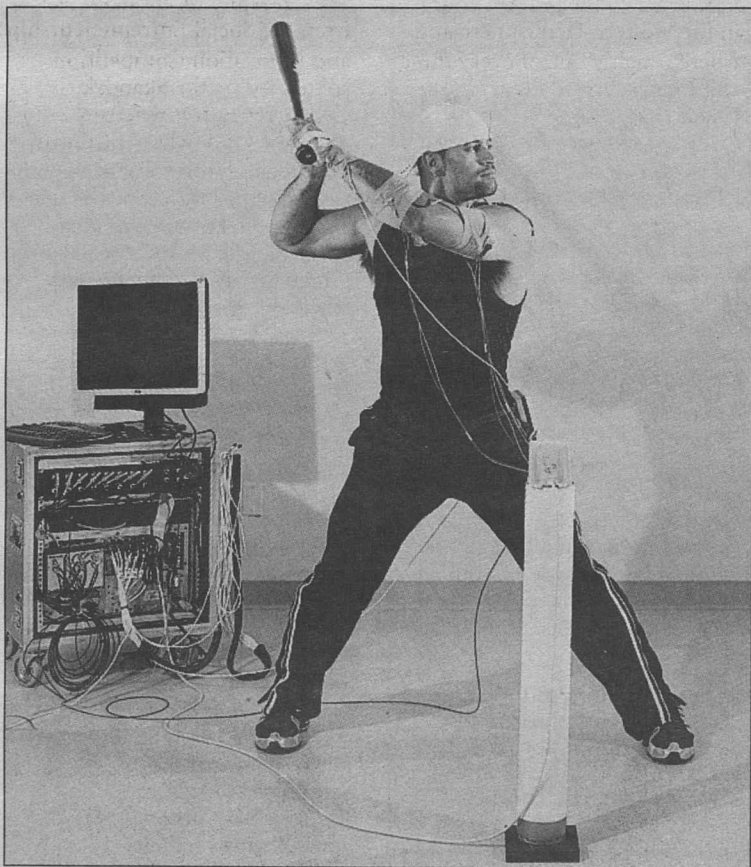
The *New York Times* covered the Ruth testing Sept. 11, 1921, with a front-page headline: "RUTH SUPERNORMAL, SO HE HITS HOMERUNS." The test results were described in a 1921 issue of *Popular Science* magazine as a "revelation" that showed Ruth's "coordination of eye, brain, nerve system and muscle [to be] practically perfect."

Looking back on the 1921 *Popular Science* article, which is available online, WUSTL's Richard Abrams suggests that the article's author was clearly a big fan of Ruth's and that this may have colored his description of the test results.

"Re-reading the 1921 article today I found that Babe Ruth really was not 'off the charts' on most of the tasks studied — instead it was reported merely that he was some amount faster or better than average," Abrams said.

"In only one case in the 1921 article were percentiles reported. As a result, we really don't know how great Babe was at these tasks. It is clear, though, that the author of the 1921 article was strongly biased to suggest that Babe achieved extreme scores on most of the tasks."

While the media may have ex-



Albert Pujols prepares to swing a bat in the lab of Catherine Lang, Ph.D., assistant professor of physical therapy, neurology and occupational therapy.

aggerated Ruth's results, few modern psychologists would find fault with the array of tests Columbia University used to probe Ruth's talents with a bat, many of which are still used today. The science behind Ruth's 1921 tests is examined in great detail in an article, titled "Psychology and 'The Babe,'" published in a 1998 issue of the *Journal of the History of the Behavioral Sciences*, also available online.

Both Ruth and Pujols participated in a number of standard psychological lab tests, such as pegboard and finger-tapping exercises, designed to gauge motor skills and cognitive performance.

White, who administers these tests frequently as part of her research and clinical work, was es-

pecially surprised by Pujols' performance on two tests in particular, a finger-tapping exercise that measures gross motor performance and a letter cancellation task that measures ability to conduct rapid searches of the environment to locate a specific target.

Asked to place a mark through a specific letter each time it appeared on a page of randomly positioned letters, Pujols used a search strategy that White had never witnessed in 18 years of administering the test.

"What was remarkable about Mr. Pujols' performance was not his speed, but his unique visual search strategy," White said.

"Most people search for targets on a page from left to right, much as they would when read-

ing. In observing Mr. Pujols' performance, I initially thought he was searching randomly. As I watched, however, I realized that he was searching as if the page were divided into sectors. After locating a single target within a sector, he moved to another sector. Only after locating a single target within each sector, did he return to previously searched sectors and continue his scan for additional targets."

Asked to depress a tapper with his index finger as many times as possible in 10 seconds, Pujols scored in the 99th percentile, a score almost identical to one earned by Ruth on a similar test of movement speed and endurance.

White was impressed not only by Pujols' tapping speed (2.4 standard deviations faster than normal), but also by the fact that his performance kept improving after repeated trials.

"It was interesting that he actually tapped faster in later trials of the task, suggesting considerable stamina at a high level of performance," White noted.

"Most people tap somewhat slower as the test progresses because their fingers and hands begin to fatigue."

Pujols tapped with such force, in fact, that, at one point, he actually knocked the tapping key out of alignment. Pujols then helped White repair the finger tapper, tightening a loosened screw with his fingernail, she said.

Pujols' ability to make split-second modifications in a planned response, such as check-

ing his swing at the last moment when a pitch strays outside the strike zone, was tested using a standard psychological test known as a go/no-go task. Pujols was given a visual "go" signal requiring him to respond as quickly as possible by pushing a button; occasionally, the initial signal would be followed by a "stop" signal requiring him to inhibit the response, if possible.

The Pujols tests, researchers suggest, represent just a small

sampling of what secrets modern science might be able to uncover regarding the mysteries of superior performance in homerun hitting and sports in general.

Yogi Berra, a St. Louis native who starred for many years as a catcher on the New York Yankees, has been quoted as saying that "baseball is 90 percent mental. The other half is physical."

Perhaps, as this "Yogiism" sug-

gests, the mysteries of baseball will defy the reason and logic of science. But researchers at the University are willing to take that challenge.

"We already know that Albert Pujols is a great baseball player — we can see that every day on the field," Abrams said. "What we don't know is whether laboratory measures of cognitive, perceptual and motor abilities will help us predict who the next Pujols or Ruth will be. It sure could be fun to find out."

For a complete listing of related links, including the 1921 *Popular Science* article, 1988 journal article and video footage, go online to [news-info.wustl.edu/news/page/normal/7535.html](http://news-info.wustl.edu/news/page/normal/7535.html).

**"It was interesting that (Pujols) actually tapped faster in later trials of the task, suggesting considerable stamina at a high level of performance. Most people tap somewhat slower as the test progresses because their fingers and hands begin to fatigue."**

DESIREE WHITE



## School of Medicine Update

# Child Health Research Center gets funding for five additional years

By BETH MILLER

**R**esearch into a variety of debilitating pediatric diseases will continue at the School of Medicine thanks to a \$2 million grant from the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development.

The grant, awarded to only a few pediatric centers nationwide, will fund the Child Health Research Center (CHRC) for the next five years.

The CHRC focuses on developing the careers of young physician-scientists in human developmental biology, genetics and genomic medicine and on bringing together basic science and clinical medicine to improve child health.

The grant provides funding for two- or three-year pediatric research opportunities to physician-scientists who have finished their residencies or fellowships.

The scholars work to better understand the pathology of diseases and evaluate new treatments through two core School of Medicine facilities — the mouse genetics core and the zebrafish core.

“Both core facilities allow us to carry out biological studies in animal models of human disease to understand the mechanisms that cause disease and to develop therapeutic and translational strategies,” said Alan L. Schwartz, M.D., Ph.D., the Harriet B. Spoehrer professor and chairman of the Department of Pediatrics and Children’s Hospital pediatrician-in-chief.

Louis J. Muglia, M.D., Ph.D., director of the CHRC and professor of pediatrics, of molecular biology and pharmacology and of

obstetrics and gynecology, said the funding offers a variety of opportunities for its scholars.

“Not only is there the opportunity to develop their work and their labs, but there is also the opportunity for mentorship and networking with the other scholars nationwide,” Muglia said. “While the research that is being done is very broad, it is all centered on pediatrics, and there is not enough of that being done around the country.”

Of the 23 scholars that have been funded since the program began in 1996, 17 are on the School of Medicine faculty. Muglia was one of the scholars that received funding in earlier years of the grant.

“Over the last decade, there has been an explosion in genetics and genomic science,” he said.

“The goal has been to integrate advances in genetics and genomics with developmental biology and combine that with educating the best people to apply those advances.”

Current trainees in the program are Tony French, M.D., Ph.D., assistant professor of pediatrics and of pathology and immunology; David Hunstad, M.D., assistant professor of pediatrics and of molecular microbiology; Patrick Jay, M.D., Ph.D., assistant professor of pediatrics and of genetics; Joshua

Rubin, M.D., Ph.D., assistant professor of pediatrics, of neurobiology and of neurobiology; and Fei Fang Shih, M.D., Ph.D., assistant professor of pediatrics and of pathology and immunology.

Rubin said the funds have been a crucial element of support for him during the critical first few years of his independent laboratory investigation, which focuses on brain tumors in children.

**“The goal has been to integrate advances in genetics and genomics with developmental biology and combine that with educating the best people to apply those advances.”**



LOUIS J. MUGLIA



Patricia Wolff, M.D., gives a checkup to a girl in Meds & Food for Kids’ (MFK) clinic in Haiti. MFK fights childhood malnutrition and related diseases in Cap Haitien, Haiti’s second-largest city, by giving Ready-to-Use Therapeutic Food, a nutrient-rich mixture of peanuts, sugar, oil, vitamins, minerals and powdered milk, to children between 6 months and 5 years old with medically diagnosed malnutrition.

## Reversing malnutrition a spoonful at a time

By BETH MILLER

**S**wollen bellies, orange hair, listlessness and dull eyes — these are the traits of child malnutrition in Haiti, the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere and where roughly one of every three children is chronically malnourished.

To try to change that statistic, Patricia B. Wolff, M.D., associate clinical professor of pediatrics, founded Meds & Food for Kids (MFK) in 2004, after she saw that medications and small amounts of local staples — rice, beans and corn — weren’t enough to nourish the children back to health.

MFK works to combat childhood malnutrition and related diseases in Cap Haitien, Haiti’s second-largest city, by giving Ready-to-Use Therapeutic Food (RUTF), a nutrient-rich mixture of peanuts, sugar, oil, vitamins, minerals and powdered milk, to children between 6 months and 5 years old with medically diagnosed malnutrition.

The mixture, known to

Haitians as “Medika Mamba,” is distributed in plastic containers for families to feed their children at home.

To give that work a boost, MFK recently received \$25,000 from the Social Entrepreneurship and Innovation Competition sponsored by the Skandalaris Center for Entrepreneurial Studies at the Olin School of Business and the St. Louis-based Youth-Bridge Association.

After evaluation and treatment with the peanut-butter mixture, children start to show visible signs of improvement in 1-2 weeks, becoming more active and growing black hair. One course of the six-week treatment, which can be enough to renourish the child, costs under \$100.

MFK primarily targets toddlers — a critical stage of development. Typically, the youngest child in a family is breastfed and older children scavenge and fight for food, leaving the hungry, weak toddlers unable to find food on their own or compete with older siblings.

Mothers are often too busy planting or selling crops to ensure the toddler is fed. But following a full course of treatment with RUTF, children have more energy and are able to maintain their health and weight on the standard Haitian diet.

“If we dig the children out of the deep immunologic and nutritional hole they are in, they are not very likely to fall back in,” Wolff said. “We can’t treat all of the congenital diseases they have, but we can treat malnutrition, which makes the kids healthier, smarter and able to contribute to society.”

The program stems from one started in 2001 by Mark J. Manary, M.D., professor of pediatrics. Manary’s Project Peanut Butter, which uses the same nutrient-rich mixture also known by its brand name Plumpy’Nut, fed 1,000 children in Malawi in the first two years, and continues to nourish thousands of starving children in the southeastern African country.

In Cap Haitien, local employees produce the mixture using primarily Haitian products in a facility that MFK has already out-

grown. The organization is treating more than 120 children, which requires 4,400 pounds of Medika Mamba a month. By the end of this year, the group wants to produce more than 6,600 pounds a month and expand its distribution network to reach more malnourished children.

The organization’s long-term goals were presented to the Social Entrepreneurship and Innovation Competition in a five-year business plan drafted by three WUSTL students: Tom Stehl, who is working toward dual master’s degrees in business administration (M.B.A.) and social work; and Cynthia Wachtel and Scott Elsworth, both M.B.A. students.

Stehl has been involved with MFK for about a year and has visited Haiti three times this year to work with the project. He recruited Wachtel and Elsworth to help draft the business plan through a course in the Olin School of Business, known as the Hatchery, in which M.B.A. students develop professional-quality business plans for early-stage companies. The trio was awarded \$5,000 from the competition.

Stehl spent two months in Cap Haitien this summer applying his business skills and networking with organizations on ways to make MFK most efficient. He said contributing his time and energy to a cause like MFK that achieves tangible results is the only way he can imagine spending his career.

“Medika Mamba saves children’s lives — period,” he said. “The kids to whom we distribute our Mamba are vulnerable, innocent and in desperate need of assistance. For them it’s truly a matter of life or death.”

Wolff spends about half of her time in Haiti, where she has volunteered since 1988 treating diseases all but absent in the United States — malaria, typhoid and parasite infestation. Vaccinations, nutritional information, food-preparation techniques and AIDS prevention are also part of the MFK program.

“Per the effort expended, the rewards are great,” Wolff said. “And that reward is addictive.”

## Unanue named Paul and Ellen Lacy Chair of Pathology

By MICHAEL C. PURDY

**E**mil R. Unanue, M.D., has been named the Paul and Ellen Lacy Professor of Pathology.

Unanue recently stepped down after 21 years as head of the Department of Pathology and Immunology. The chair is named for Unanue’s predecessor as department head, Paul Lacy, M.D., Ph.D., and his wife, Ellen.

“I can think of no one more appropriate to be honored with the Lacy professorship,” said Skip Virgin, M.D., Ph.D., the Edward Mallinckrodt Professor and head of pathology and immunology. “Dr. Unanue is one of the most outstanding immunologists and infectious disease researchers in the world. He has made fundamentally important contributions to our understanding of how the immune system recognizes and responds to pathogens and how these responses can sometimes go awry and target the self in autoimmune conditions.”

Lacy, a specialist in diabetes, was head of pathology and immunology from 1961-1984. He pioneered the development of transplantation of islets of Langerhans, insulin-producing cells in the pancreas, as a treatment for diabetes. While the treatment is a research option for some diabetes patients today, scientists hope to one day refine it into a cure.

“I am very honored to receive the Lacy chair because Paul was not only a close personal friend but also someone that I admired greatly,” Unanue said. “He had a very significant influence in making the department a major center for biomedical research prior to my arrival.”

Unanue joined the School of Medicine in 1985 as head of pathology and immunology and pathologist-in-chief of Barnes-Jewish Hospital. During his tenure, Washington University’s immunology program has become one of the most innovative and productive centers in the world for immunological research.

Unanue is internationally recognized as a leader in understanding how the immune system identifies foreign material, or antigen, and how immune system T cells respond to it. The cells are important components of the body’s response to infectious diseases; when misdirected against the body’s own tissues, they also can make major contributions to autoimmune conditions, including diabetes and arthritis.

Through his continuing investigations of how immune recognition and attacks take place, Unanue has helped scientists gain important insights that may one day be harnessed to improve the body’s defenses against diseases and to disarm misdirected immune attacks that could lead to autoimmune conditions.



Unanue



## University Events

# PAD to present *Dance Closeup* Sept. 7-9

## Biennial faculty concert to feature traditional and cutting-edge dance

By LIAM OTTEN

Tango, rumba and Indian bharata natyam will share the stage with contemporary multimedia works and live improvisation in *Dance Closeup*, the biennial concert of original choreography by Dance Program faculty in WUSTL's Performing Arts Department in Arts & Sciences.

Performances begin at 8 p.m. Thursday and Friday, Sept. 7 and 8; and at 5 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 9, in the Annelise Mertz Dance Studio, located in Room 207, Mallinckrodt Student Center.

Tickets are \$17 for the general public and \$10 for students, children, senior citizens and University faculty and staff. Floor-mat seating — in keeping with the event's intimate, informal atmosphere — is available for \$6. Tickets are available at the Edison Theatre Box Office, located in the Mallinckrodt Student Center, and through all MetroTix outlets. For more information, call the box office at 935-6543.

Launched in 1995, *Dance Closeup* regularly serves as the unofficial kickoff to St. Louis' professional dance season. This year's installment will feature 10 works choreographed and performed by faculty and guest dancers.

"*Dance Closeup* always reflects the breadth of styles and expertise among the dance faculty," said artistic director Mary-Jean Cowell, Ph.D., associate professor and coordinator of the Dance Program. "However, this year's program is exceptional in its variety

of approaches, including connections with the new field of performing arts and technology."

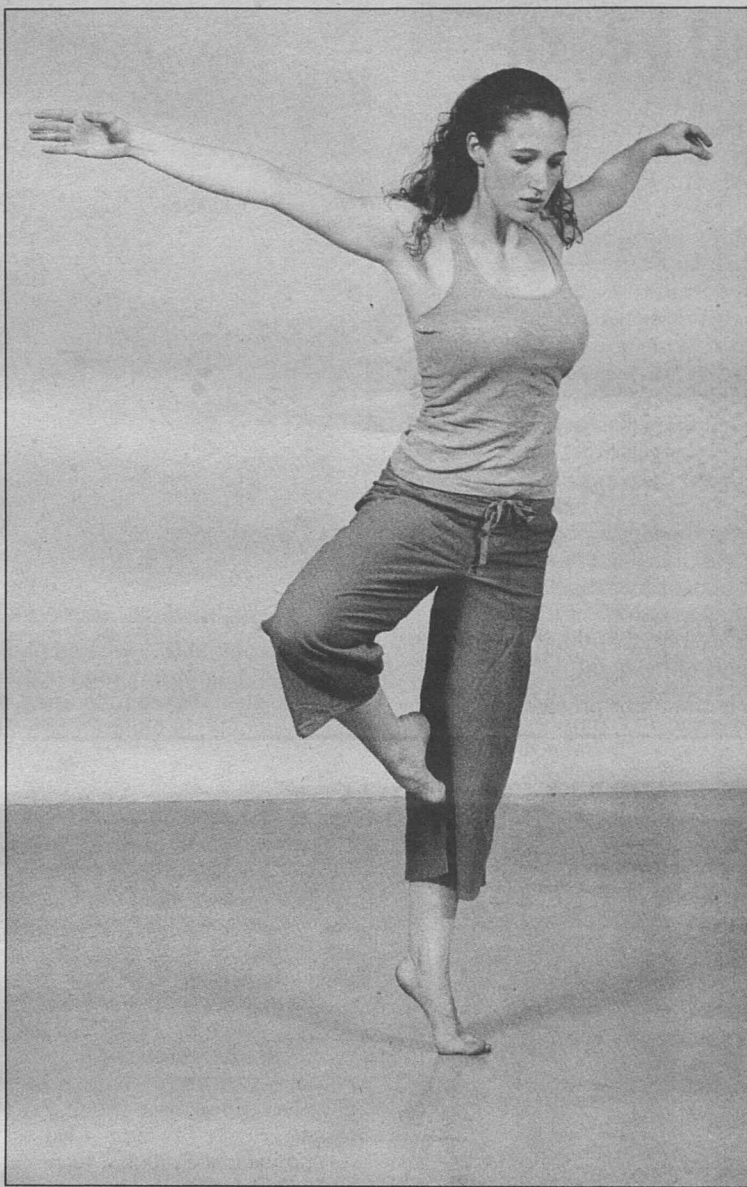
The concert will feature "Leonardo's Chimes," an ambitious multimedia work by David Marchant, senior lecturer in dance, and composer John Toenjes of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. The piece uses motion-tracking technologies that allow Marchant to move through virtual "hot spots," thus activating prerecorded sounds, which are then selected and layered by Toenjes.

"The computer has been programmed to change the pitches and general direction of the music depending on how the mover/performer chooses to play 'Leonardo's Chimes' on any given night," Marchant explained. "The result is a spontaneous 'conversation' among the musician, dancer and programmer."

Henry Claude, music director for the Dance Program, will lead a performance by the Nuclear Percussion Ensemble. In addition, the group, which is dedicated to innovative percussion work, will collaborate with several of the dancers to create an improvisational piece.

Christine Knoblauch-O'Neal, senior lecturer in dance and director of the Ballet Program, will perform "Courtesan," a solo work choreographed by Jennifer Medina, visiting assistant professor of dance at the University of Missouri-Kansas City and a company member with the Wylliams/Henry Danse Theatre.

"Movement has been drawn from the images of a courtesan's life, as well as that of a captured



Adjunct instructor Mary Mazello, a University alumna, choreographs and performs "Quietly," a modern-influenced jazz dance, set to music of Sigur Rós.

bird," Medina explained. "This dance is dedicated to women everywhere who have had to live their lives in a compromised way." Other featured dances are:

**"Beauty Bound":** Cecil Slaughter, lecturer in dance, choreographs and performs this piece, which explores "personal transformation from uncertainty

to hope and faith," and is set to music of Operatica. Slaughter, who also serves as artistic director of the annual Washington University Dance Theatre, is founder and director of The Slaughter Project dance company.

**"Tracings":** Adjunct instructor Dawn Karlovsky choreographs and performs a solo inspired by the flow and energy of Japanese calligraphy. The original score is composed by St. Louis musician Tory Z. Starbuck.

**"Quietly":** Adjunct instructor Mary Mazello, a University alumna, choreographs and performs this modern-influenced jazz dance, set to music of Sigur Rós.

**"Pastpresentpresentpastpresent":** Cowell choreographs and performs in this work for four dancers, which also features Marchant, Karlovsky and Mazello. Set to music of Arvo Pärt, the piece examines "the flow of awareness" and the constant revisiting and revising of memory.

**"Nada Tanu Manisham":** Adjunct instructor Asha Prem choreographs and performs this classical Indian dance in the bharata natyam style, which honors the god Shiva (symbolized by the drum in the accompanying music). Prem is founder and director of St. Louis' celebrated School of Dances of India.

**"Tango and Rumba":** Adjunct instructors Estella and Randy Ruzicka, founders of The Tango Society of St. Louis, choreograph and perform these traditional dances. Music for the tango will be "Ceylos" by J. Gadé. Music for the rumba will be "Harlem Nocturne," performed by the Mancini Orchestra.

**"Lunar Tides":** Mary Ann Rund, adjunct instructor, choreographs and performs in this duet with Karlovsky.

## Opportunities for Wellness • Facing the Urban Challenge

"University Events" lists a portion of the activities taking place Sept. 1-15 at Washington University. Visit the Web for expanded calendars for the Hilltop Campus ([calendar.wustl.edu](http://calendar.wustl.edu)) and the School of Medicine ([medschool.wustl.edu/calendars.html](http://medschool.wustl.edu/calendars.html)).

### Exhibits

**2006 Freshman Reading Program.** Sponsored by University Libraries. Through Sept. 15. Olin Library Lobby. 935-6626.

**Technology Changes Fall '06.** Sponsored by University Libraries. Through Sept. 15. Olin Library Lobby. 935-6626.

### Lectures

#### Friday, Sept. 1

**10:30 a.m. Olin School of Business Lecture.** "Dealing With the Risk of Supplier Bankruptcy: The Benefits of Diversification and the Costs of Financial Subsidies." Volodymyr Babich, asst. prof. of industrial and operations engineering, U. of Mich. Co-sponsored by the Boeing Center for Technology, Information and Manufacturing. Simon Hall, Rm. 241. 935-5577.

#### Tuesday, Sept. 5

**5:30 p.m. Biochemistry & Molecular Biophysics Biophysical Evenings Seminar.** "Substrate Mimicry and Regulation of the Histone Deacetylase Sir2." Tom Ellenberger, prof. of biochemistry and molecular biophysics. Cori Aud., 4565 McKinley Ave. 362-4152.

#### Wednesday, Sept. 6

**11 a.m. Assembly Series.** Elliot H. Stein

Lecture in Ethics. "Chain of Command: The Road From 9/11 to Abu Ghraib and Beyond." Seymour Hersh, reporter. Co-sponsored by the Center for the Study of Ethics and Human Values, Public Interest Law Speakers Series, Amnesty International and *Student Life*. Graham Chapel. 935-5285.

**4 p.m. Physics Colloquium.** "Deciphering the Dark Matter: Distribution & Dynamics of Our Galaxy." Ram Cowsik, prof. of physics. (3:30 p.m. coffee. Compton Hall, Rm. 245.) Crow Hall, Rm. 201. 935-6276.

#### Thursday, Sept. 7

**8:30-10:30 a.m. Center for the Application of Information Technology Executive and Management Forum.** "Convergence: The Next Frontier." Johna Johnson, president and chief research officer, Nemertes Research. St. Louis Science Center. For information and to register: 935-5501.

**3:30-5:15 p.m. School of Law Lecture.** "China's Judiciary: Current Issues." Jianli Song, judge, Supreme Court of China. Anheuser-Busch Hall, Rm. 310. 935-7988.

#### Monday, Sept. 11

**8 a.m.-noon. St. Louis STD/HIV Prevention Training Center CME Course.** "STD Laboratory Methods." (Continues 1-5 p.m. Sept. 12 and 8 a.m.-noon Sept. 13.) Cost: \$75. For location and to register: 747-1522.

**8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Center for the Application of Information Technology Threeday Workshop.** "Project Management Professional (PMP) Concept Review and Exam Preparation." (Continues 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Sept. 12-13.) Cost: \$1,230, reduced fees available for CAIT member organizations. CAIT, 5 N. Jackson Ave. To register: 935-4444.

**Noon. Work, Families & Public Policy Brown Bag Seminar Series.** "Instant Gratification, Procrastination and Savings

### How to submit 'University Events'

Submit "University Events" items to Genevieve Posey of the Record staff via:

- (1) e-mail — [recordcalendar@wustl.edu](mailto:recordcalendar@wustl.edu);
- (2) campus mail — Campus Box 1070; or
- (3) fax — 935-4259.

Upon request, forms for submitting events may be e-mailed, mailed or faxed to departments to be filled out and returned.

Deadline for submissions is noon on the Thursday eight days prior to the publication date.

Policy." David Laibson, prof. of economics, Harvard U. Eliot Hall, Rm. 300. 935-4918.

#### Tuesday, Sept. 12

**Noon. Program in Physical Therapy Research Seminar.** "Worksite Opportunities for Wellness." Susan Racette, asst. prof. of physical therapy. 4444 Forest Park Blvd., Lower Level, Rm. B108. 286-1400.

**4 p.m. Center on Urban Research & Public Policy Inaugural Lecture.** "Facing the Urban Challenge: Where Inequality, Race, and Immigration Meet." Lawrence Bobo, Martin Luther King Jr. Centennial Professor, Stanford U. Graham Chapel. 935-5216.

#### Wednesday, Sept. 13

**11 a.m. Assembly Series.** EnCouncil

Lecture. Bill Nye, engineer, author, TV personality. Graham Chapel. 935-5285.

**4 p.m. Biochemistry & Molecular Biophysics Seminar.** "Proteasome Activation: Opening the Gate to Nature's Molecule of Mass Destruction." Christopher Hill, prof. of biochemistry, U. of Utah. Cori Aud., 4565 McKinley Ave. 362-4152.

### Music

#### Monday, Sept. 11

**8 p.m. Concert.** Washington University Chamber Orchestra. Elizabeth Macdonald, dir. Umrath Hall Lounge. 935-4841.

#### Thursday, Sept. 14

**8 p.m. Jazz at Holmes presents Jazz in the Quad.** Willie Akins, saxophonist, and his quartet. Co-sponsored by Residential Life and New Student Orientation. Brookings Quadrangle. 935-4841.

### Sports

#### Friday, Sept. 1

**3 p.m. Volleyball vs. Dominican U.** Washington University Classic. Athletic Complex. 935-4705.

**7:30 p.m. Volleyball vs. U. of Wisc.-Platteville.** Washington University Classic. Athletic Complex. 935-4705.

#### Saturday, Sept. 2

**9 a.m. Cross Country.** Washington University Early Bird Meet. Francis Field. 935-4705.

**10 a.m. Volleyball vs. Wartburg College.** Washington University Classic. Athletic Complex. 935-4705.

**2:30 p.m. Volleyball vs. Ill. Wesleyan U.** Washington University Classic. Athletic Complex. 935-4705.

#### Friday, Sept. 8

**3 p.m. Volleyball vs. Pacific U.** Washington University National Invitational. Athletic Complex. 935-4705.

**7:30 p.m. Men's Soccer vs. Rhodes College.** Francis Field. 935-4705.

**8 p.m. Volleyball vs. Central College.** Washington University National Invitational. Athletic Complex. 935-4705.

#### Saturday, Sept. 9

**10 a.m. Volleyball vs. Ohio Northern U.** Washington University National Invitational. Athletic Complex. 935-4705.

**3 p.m. Volleyball vs. Wittenberg U.** Washington University National Invitational. Athletic Complex. 935-4705.

**7 p.m. Football vs. Westminster College.** Francis Field. 935-4705.

### And more

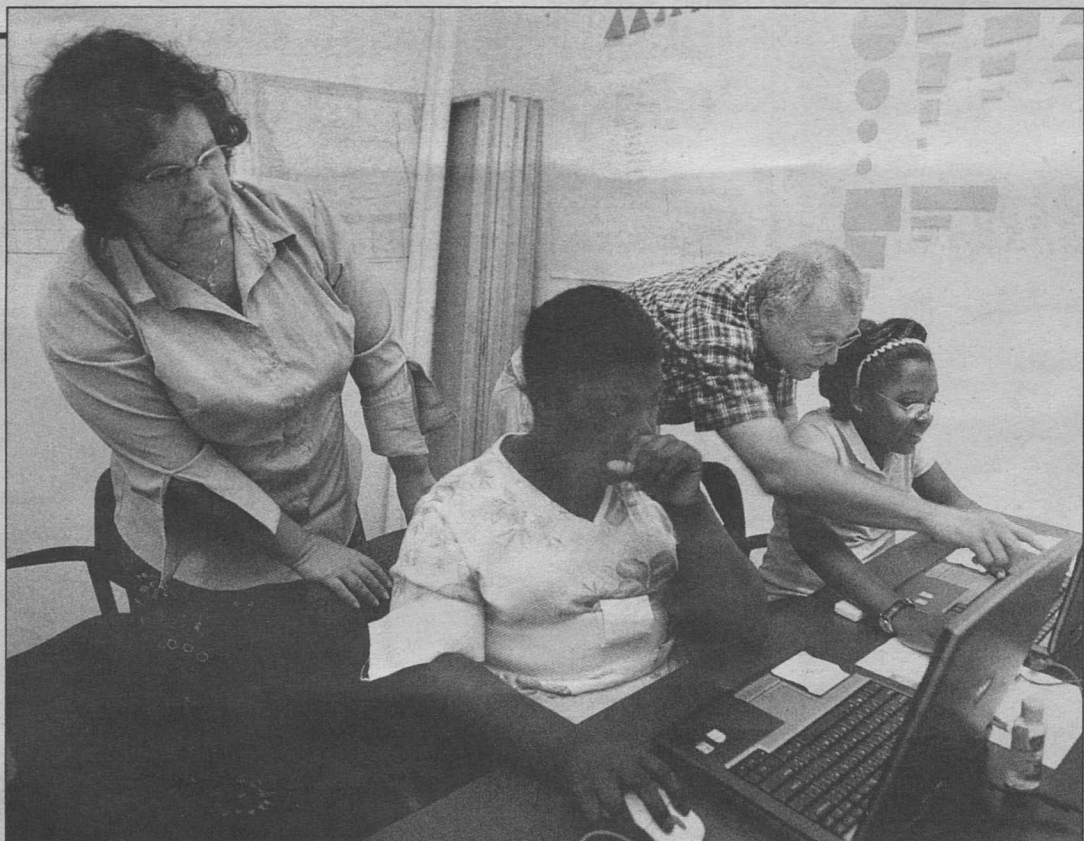
#### Thursday, Sept. 7

**8 p.m. Writing Program Reading Series.** Kellie Wells and Kerri Webster, writers-in-residence, Dept. of English. Hurst Lounge, Duncker Hall, Rm. 201. 935-7130.

#### Thursday, Sept. 14

**8 p.m. Writing Program Reading Series.** Paul Muldoon, Visiting Hurst Professor, poet. Women's Bldg. Formal Lounge. 935-7130.





**Animated Fun** Jere Confrey, Ph.D., professor of education, and Alan Maloney, Ph.D., senior research coordinator in biology, both in Arts & Sciences, provide computer help to University City sixth-graders Tia Cooper and Keya Freeman during a summer research program. The three-week program, funded by a grant from the National Science Foundation, taught eight sixth-grade students about computer animations and the mathematical ideas that underlie them and allowed the students to create their own animated computer projects.

## Faculty examine topics related to work, families, public policy

By CYNTHIA GEORGES

**F**aculty members and graduate students from WUSTL and other institutions will participate in the "Work, Families and Public Policy" seminar series, discussing topics related to labor, households, health care, law and social welfare.

The biweekly, brown-bag Monday luncheon series, now in its 11th year, is designed to promote interdisciplinary research, and features presentations by faculty from local and national universities and organizations. These presentations will be from noon -1 p.m. in Eliot Hall, Room 300, and will be followed by half-hour discussion periods.

The fall schedule is listed below.

- Sept. 11: **David Laibson**, Ph.D., professor of economics at Harvard University, will examine "Instant Gratification, Procrastination and Savings Policy."
- Sept. 25: **James Smith**, Ph.D., economist at the RAND Corp., will discuss "Vignettes and Self-Reported Work Disability."
- Oct. 9: **Barton Hamilton**, Ph.D., the Robert Brookings Smith Distinguished Professor of Entrepreneurship in the Olin School of Business, will present "Using Expectations Data to Infer Managerial Objectives and Choices."
- Oct. 23: **Timothy Smeeding**, Ph.D., the Distinguished Professor of Economics and Public Administration at Syracuse University, will talk on "Income From Wealth and Income From Labor: The Rising

Importance of Accumulated Wealth for Economic Well-Being."

- Nov. 6: **Robert A. Pollak**, Ph.D., the Hernreich Distinguished Professor of Economics in Arts & Sciences and in the Olin School of Business, will discuss "Time Use and Household Production."
  - Nov. 20: **Elizabeth Scott**, J.D., the Harold R. Medina Professor of Law at Columbia Law School, will explore "Social Welfare and Juvenile Justice Policy."
  - Dec. 4: **Anne Winkler**, Ph.D., professor of economics and public policy administration at the University of Missouri-St. Louis, will discuss "Defining and Measuring Time Spent in Household Management: Implications for Forensic Economics."
- The series is sponsored by the Olin School of Business, the George Warren Brown School of Social Work, the Center for Social Development, the Center for Interdisciplinary Studies in the School of Law, the Center for Health Policy, the Department of Economics and the College of Arts & Sciences.
- Pollak has served as lead organizer of the series since its inception. The co-organizer is Michael W. Sherraden, Ph.D., the Benjamin E. Youngdahl Professor of Social Development and director of the Center for Social Development in the Brown school.
- For more information, go to [olin.wustl.edu/links](http://olin.wustl.edu/links) and click on the "Academic Seminars" link on the right, or contact Pollak at 935-4918 or [pollak@wustl.edu](mailto:pollak@wustl.edu), or Sherraden at 935-6691 or [sherrad@wustl.edu](mailto:sherrad@wustl.edu).

## Post-Assembly Series discussions allow students to keep the conversation going

By BARBARA REA

**R**ecognizing that students often want the opportunity to express their views on subjects that are raised by the Assembly Series, the College of Arts & Sciences and the Center for the Study of Ethics and Human Values are making this opportunity available.

Beginning with the first Assembly Series lecture this fall — Seymour Hersh on Sept. 6 — a series of Post-Assembly Series Student

Discussions (PASSD) will be held. PASSD sessions will immediately follow the conclusion of the 11 a.m. Wednesday Assembly Series lectures, typically around noon. The hourlong sessions will be held in Umrath Hall, Room 113 (directly to the south of Graham Chapel). Assembly Series lectures that do not follow the 11 a.m. Wednesday schedule will not include a post-lecture discussion.

All WUSTL students (undergraduate, graduate or professional) are eligible, but seating will be

reserved for the first 25 students who sign up. Each discussion will be led by a WUSTL faculty or staff member, and participants will receive free pizza. The discussions are being co-sponsored by the College of Arts & Sciences and the Center for the Study of Ethics and Human Values.

For more information on the discussions or how to sign up, contact the center at 935-9358. For the Assembly Series schedule, go online to [assemblyseries.wustl.edu](http://assemblyseries.wustl.edu) or call 935-4620.

## Wells, Webster to launch Writing Program Reading Series

**K**ellie Wells, Ph.D., and Kerri Webster, both writers-in-residence in the Writing Program in Arts & Sciences, will launch the fall Writing Program Reading Series at 8 p.m. Sept. 7.

The reading is free and open to the public and takes place in Hurst Lounge, Room 201 Duncker Hall. For more information, call 935-7130.

Wells, who also serves as director of the Writing Program, is the author of *Compression Scars*, which won the 2001 Flannery O'Connor Award for short fiction, and the novel *Skin* (2006). Her fiction has appeared in *The Kenyon Review*, *The Gettysburg Review*,

*Prairie Schooner* and other journals. In 2002 she received the Rona Jaffe Foundation Writers' Award, which supports the work of emerging women writers.

Webster is the author of *We Do Not Eat Our Hearts Alone* (2005). Her poems have appeared in *The Antioch Review*, *Beloit Poetry Journal*, *Boston Review* and *VOLT*. In 2003, Carl Phillips, professor of English and of African and African-American Studies in Arts & Sciences, selected Webster's chapbook, *Rowing Through Fog*, as a winner of the Poetry Society of America's National Chapbook Competition.

## Law school speaker series to focus on public interest

By CYNTHIA GEORGES

**A** lead counsel in the Guantanamo Bay detainees U.S. Supreme Court case highlights the School of Law's ninth annual Public Interest Law & Policy Speakers Series.

Titled "Access to Justice: The Social Responsibility of Lawyers," the yearlong series brings to WUSTL nationally and internationally prominent experts in such areas as international human rights, the economics of poverty, racial justice, capital punishment, clinical legal education, government public service and pro bono private practice.

Series coordinators are Karen L. Tokarz, J.D., professor of law and executive director of clinical education and of alternative dispute resolution programs, and Peter Wiedenbeck, J.D., associate dean of faculty and the Joseph H. Zumbalen Professor of Law.

With the exception of the initial presentation, all lectures will be held in Anheuser-Busch Hall. They are free and open to the public.

Lectures in the series are:

- 11 a.m. Sept. 6 — **Seymour Hersh**, veteran investigative reporter and Pulitzer Prize-winning writer, will speak on "Chain of Command: From 9/11 to Abu Ghraib and Beyond." This lecture will be held in Graham Chapel and simulcast in the School of Law. An informal discussion with Hersh is scheduled for 2 p.m. at the School of Law. This lecture is co-sponsored by the Assembly Series and the Center for the Study of Ethics and Human Values.
  - 11 a.m. Sept. 27 — **Marianne Wesson**, professor and Wolf-Nichol Fellow at the University of Colorado School of Law, will present "Unquiet Grave: The Hillmon Case and the Supreme Court."
- Wesson is well known for her work on pornography in feminism and law. She is an experienced trial attorney and author of legal mystery novels, *Render Up the Body* and *A Suggestion of Death*.
- Her latest book, *Chilling Effect*, deals with the relationship between pornography and free speech.
- She is a regular legal commentator on National Public Radio's "Weekend Edition Sunday." Wesson's talk is co-sponsored by the Women's Law Caucus.

9 a.m. Sept. 29 — **Cherif Bassiouni**, the Distinguished Research Professor of Law and president of the International Human Rights Law Institute at DePaul University College of Law, will examine "The Legal/Moral Legacy of Nuremberg and Its Impact on International Criminal Justice."

Bassiouni's talk serves as the keynote address for "Judgment at Nuremberg," a symposium commemorating the 60th anniversary of the Nazi war trials and scheduled Sept. 29-Oct. 2 at WUSTL's law school. The symposium is co-sponsored by the school's Whitney R. Harris Institute for Global Legal Studies.

Bassiouni is president of the International Institute of Higher Studies in Criminal Sciences in Siracusa, Italy, as well as the honorary president of the International Association of Penal Law, based in Paris. He has served the United Nations in a variety of capacities, and in 1999 was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize for his work in the field of international criminal justice and for his contribution to the creation of the International Criminal Court.

11 a.m. Oct. 4 — **William Kovacic**, a commissioner of the Federal Trade Commission, will talk about "Competition Policy, Consumer Protection and Economic Disadvantage." This lecture is co-sponsored by the Student

Bar Association.

Kovacic is on leave as the E.K. Gubin Professor of Government Contracts Law at George Washington University Law School. Since 1992, he has served as an adviser on antitrust and consumer protection issues to the governments of Armenia, Benin, Egypt, El Salvador, Georgia, Guyana, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Mongolia, Morocco, Nepal, Panama, Russia, Ukraine, Vietnam and Zimbabwe. He also has written books and articles on antitrust law.

11 a.m. Oct. 11 — **Lucas Guttentag**, a highly regarded immigration law expert and national director of the Immigrants' Rights Project of the American Civil Liberties Union Foundation, will explore "Immigrants' Rights in the Courts and Congress: Constitutional Protections and the Rule of Law After 9/11."

Under Guttentag's direction, the Immigrants' Rights Project staff conducts a program of national impact litigation, advocacy and public education to enforce and expand the constitutional and civil rights of immigrants. This talk is co-sponsored by Equal Justice Works.

3 p.m. Oct. 31 — **Richard Epstein**, the James Parker Hall Distinguished Service Professor of Law at the University of Chicago, will present "Has Modern Complex Litigation Outgrown the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure? The Case of Antitrust."

Epstein has served as the Peter and Kirstin Bedford Senior Fellow at the Hoover Institution since 2000. His books include *Skepticism and Freedom: A Modern Case for Classical Liberalism* and *Principles for a Free Society: Reconciling Individual Liberty With the Common Good*.

4:30 p.m. Nov. 2 — **Joseph Margulies**, a lecturer and trial attorney at the MacArthur Justice Center at Northwestern University's School of Law, will examine "Prisons Beyond the Law: Guantanamo and the Abuse of Presidential Power."

Margulies is the author of the recently published book, *Guantanamo and the Abuse of Presidential Power*. He has been a successful civil rights and capital defense attorney for 14 years. He has represented death row inmates across the country and was lead counsel in the Guantanamo Bay detainees case *Rasul et al. v. Bush et al.*, decided by the U.S. Supreme Court in 2006. This lecture is co-sponsored by the American Constitution Society and the Cardozo Society.

4 p.m. Nov. 7 — **Richard A. Gephardt**, former U.S. Congressman and advisory board chairman of the Richard A. Gephardt Institute for Public Service, will speak on "Addressing America's Most Pressing Problems."

Gephardt served for 28 years in the U.S. House of Representatives, where he represented Missouri's Third Congressional District and served as majority leader. He is senior counsel in the Government Affairs practice group of DLA Piper Rudnick Gray Cary in Washington, D.C. His talk is co-sponsored by the Richard A. Gephardt Institute for Public Service.

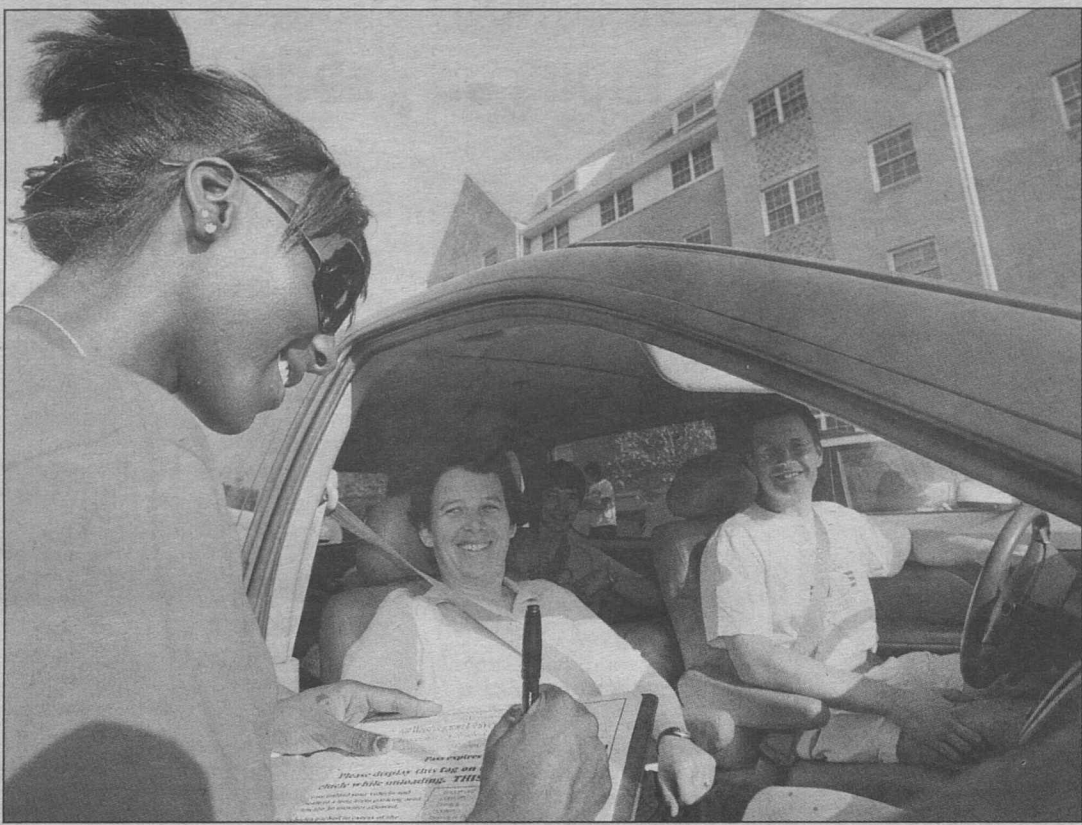
Noon, Nov. 20 — **Stephanie Wildman**, professor of law and director of the Center for Social Justice and Public Service at Santa Clara University School of Law, will address "Race, Social Justice and Democracy."

Wildman is the author of *Privilege Revealed: How Invisible Preference Undermines America*. This lecture is co-sponsored by the National Lawyers Guild.

The series continues in the spring with four lectures.

For more information, call 935-4958.



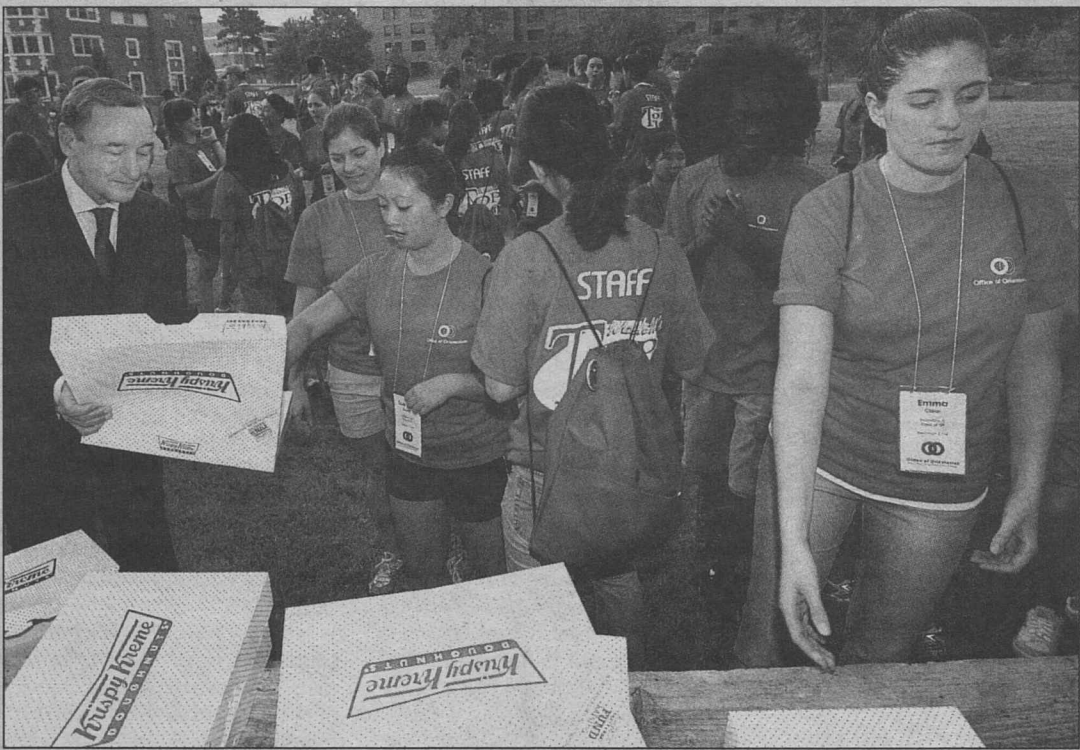


## The Class of 2010 arrives on campus

Above, Orientation Ambassador Sheila Forjuoh, a sophomore, greets Ken Goldman, Ph.D., an associate professor, and his wife, Sally Goldman, Ph.D., a professor, both in the Department of Computer Science, as they drop off their son, Mark, an incoming freshman, during "move-in" day Aug. 24. Student Orientation ambassadors were on-site to answer questions and provide direction.

Right, senior Nina Zhao, part of the Residential Life student staff, leads the way as new students and their families carry belongings into the South 40.

(Joe Angeles photos)



Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton hands out Krispy Kreme doughnuts to the 140-plus student volunteers who turned out to assist incoming freshmen. Student volunteers from various campus organizations served as Orientation ambassadors and Residential Life student staff. Wrighton gave a pep talk to the student volunteers, who showed up at 6:45 a.m.

## Medros

**First WUSTL company funded by BioGenerator**  
— from Page 1

ous growth.

"With our method, we aren't asking what the target is — we're letting the system tell us," Cagan said. "Do the flies get better? If you find the magic compound that hits everything that contributes to the disease in just the right amount so that the fly can live, then you've made true progress."

Medros gives the researchers a mechanism to obtain private drug

libraries, establish the effectiveness of their technology and potentially attract commercial interest to their discoveries.

"We believe in the technology," Baranski said. "But we're scientists, not businessmen. That's where BioGenerator came in. They were willing to invest in us, and together with the Office of Technology Management here at Washington University, they were able to help us through the fairly involved process of creating a company."

The Office of Technology Management assists faculty members who wish to translate their research to the private sector to fully realize the societal benefit while generating income support-

ing research and education.

BioGenerator previously has invested in four other companies, all located in St. Louis, but Medros is the first BioGenerator-funded company originating from research conducted at the University.

Serving on the Medros science advisory board are medical school faculty members Kenneth S. Polonsky, M.D., the Adolphus Busch Professor and head of the Department of Medicine; John F. Dipersio, M.D., Ph.D., deputy director of the Siteman Cancer Center and the Lewis T. and Rosalind B. Apple Professor of Medicine; and Philip Needleman, Ph.D., adjunct professor of molecular biology and pharmacology.

## Incoming class numbers 'compliment to University'

By ANDY CLENDENNEN

The numbers just keep growing.

This year's incoming freshman class — the Class of 2010 — features some very impressive numbers indeed.

The approximately 1,450 first-year students hail from all over the world and represent about 19 countries, 49 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands.

They arrived in late August and have been busy unpacking, learning their way around the Hilltop Campus and gearing up for the fall semester, which began Aug. 30.

Many in the select group were academic leaders, student government officers and participants in extracurricular activities and athletics in high school. Collectively, the incoming class has received more than 2,500 special awards and recognitions.

In addition:

- More than 1,000 students

are National Honor Society members;

- 180 were senior class officers, and 460 were officers in service organizations;

- Many served as editors — 74 of yearbooks and 145 of newspapers;

- More than 400 were members of their school bands or orchestras and more than 200 were members of a choir or chorus, and;

- In athletics, 458 were team captains.

"It is a delight to have such a talented and diverse freshman class on campus," said Nanette H. Tarbouni, director of undergraduate admissions. "We encourage everyone to extend a warm welcome to them."

The freshmen were chosen from a record number of applicants — more than 22,000.

"We are excited that so many students chose to come to Washington University," Tarbouni said. "That is quite a compliment to the Washington University community."

## More than 1,000 freshmen to volunteer at Service First

By NEIL SCHOENHERR

Students in the Class of 2010, newly arrived on campus, will be rolling up their sleeves and getting to work right away — not only in the classroom, but also in the community.

More than 1,000 freshmen will volunteer their time Sept. 2, to paint, landscape, clean and beautify 12 area public schools to make the school year more enjoyable for students and their teachers.

It's all part of the eighth annual Service First, an initiative that introduces first-year University students to community service in the St. Louis area.

This year's projects will range from painting indoor and outdoor murals, maps on playgrounds and other painting activities, to creating bulletin boards and preparing classrooms. The bulk of the work will take place from 1-4 p.m.

"Service First is popular among the students and schools alike for good reason," said Stephanie Kurtzman, director of the Community Service Office and associate director of the Richard A. Gephardt Institute for Public Service. "It's such a bright, colorful day and is a great opportunity to build friendships, make

a meaningful contribution to our neighboring schools and begin the commitment to community service."

Upon returning to the University after a day of work, students will participate in a Community Service Fair and barbecue featuring more than 30 student-run organizations that focus on community service. It allows students to learn more about opportunities in which to get involved during their time at college.

Service First is co-sponsored this year by St. Louis Public Schools, The Women's Society of Washington University, Student Union and Congress of the South 40, among many others.

Service First began in 1999 with about 600 student volunteers helping to clean and beautify scenic trails. It has grown and flourished every year, and now typically involves more than 1,000 students, staff and faculty volunteers.

Schools to be visited this year are Bishop Middle School in the Wellston School District; Washington/Euclid Montessori schools; Clay, Columbia, Farragut, Kenard, Oak Hill and Walbridge elementary schools; Fanning, Humbolt and Stowe middle schools; and Roosevelt High School.

For more information, call Kurtzman at 935-5066.

## Record

Founded in 1905  
Washington University community news

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Washington University in St. Louis



# Notables

## Academy

*Program steeps scholars in U.S. culture, politics*

— from Page 1

nell, additional endowment pledges and 11 multinational corporate sponsors. Sponsoring corporations also offer internships and on-site educational opportunities for the academy's Corporate Fellows.

The sponsoring corporations to date are: Boeing Co., St. Louis; Brown Shoe Co., St. Louis; Cabot Corp., Boston; Charoen Pokphand Indonesia, Jakarta; Corning Inc., Corning, N.Y.; Emerson, St. Louis; Energy and Environmental Research, Ames, Iowa; Monsanto Co.,

St. Louis; Nestlé Purina PetCare Co., St. Louis; Rohm and Haas, Philadelphia; and Tyco Healthcare/Mallinckrodt, St. Louis. The Lee Foundation of Singapore is a foundation sponsor.

The McDonnell Academy not only provides these students rigorous graduate instruction in their chosen degree areas, but also steeps them in a cultural, political and social education program designed to prepare them as future leaders knowledgeable about the United States, other countries and critical international issues.

"One of the biggest benefits these students are going to get is the networking and the relationships they're going to have in place by the time they leave here," Wertsch said. "Our hope is that 20 years from now, they'll be movers and shakers in global society."

Other partner universities that will be

providing students in future years include: China Agricultural University in Beijing, Technion-Israel Institute of Technology in Haifa, Israel; Interdisciplinary Center, Herzliya, in Herzliya, Israel; University of Indonesia in Jakarta; and the University of Tokyo.

Academy officials expect the numbers of partner universities as well as sponsoring corporations and foundations to grow.

The McDonnell Academy Scholars receive funding for full tuition, living expenses and travel to and from St. Louis. Most of the scholars reside in two fully-equipped and furnished rehabbed apartment buildings at Pershing Avenue and Skinker Boulevard.

The scholars, their corporate or foundation sponsors and their universities, WUSTL fields of study, and ambassadors (in italic) are listed below.

## Givens appointed to associate vice chancellor; will succeed Jasper Leicht

Steven J. Givens has been named associate vice chancellor and executive director of University Communications effective Jan. 1.

The promotion was announced by M. Fredric Volkmann, vice chancellor for Public Affairs. Givens, who serves as assistant vice chancellor and special assistant to Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton, will succeed Judy Jasper Leicht, who announced she plans to retire at the end of the calendar year.

"Steve is an extraordinarily effective manager and a talented communicator. He has my highest respect personally and professionally, and I know that he will be an outstanding leader for University Communications," Wrighton said.

Volkmann added, "Judy Leicht will be greatly missed — as a national leader in her profession, as the University's spokesperson and as a superb manager of our news operation. We are fortunate that she has agreed to help with special projects after her retirement in January.

"Steve Givens has an exceptional background in university public affairs and communications, both here and at the University of Missouri-St. Louis. He also has a great depth of knowledge about Washington University, and he will be a terrific addition to our public affairs team."

As associate vice chancellor, Givens will lead the University Communications team and be responsible for the planning and the implementation of public affairs strategies and programs for national and international news initiatives of the six schools on the Hilltop Campus, for development of local and regional news, for external electronic communications including the news and information Web site and the radio and television broadcast studio. Givens will be responsible for internal communications including the print and electronic *Record*. He also will supervise Sports Information.

"I am delighted to be able to help lead one of the very best and most respected university communications programs in the nation," Givens says. "It is an honor to join the team of seasoned and creative professionals who are committed to telling the story of Washington University to the world."

A native of St. Louis, Givens is an experienced and accomplished communicator who has worked in education nearly his entire career.

After graduating magna cum laude with a bachelor of arts degree in English in 1985 from the University of Missouri-St. Louis (UMSL), he remained at that university in positions including assistant director of University Communications, senior information specialist and speechwriter for then-Chancellor Marguerite Ross Barnett. He earned a master's degree in education from UMSL in 1992.

From 1989-1992, Givens owned and managed his own communications agency serving educational institutions and small businesses.

Throughout the 1980s and '90s, he was a widely published freelance journalist. Givens is the author of five children's books, numerous religious-education publications and co-author of the book that marked the 25th anniversary of the Gateway Arch.

His essays and commentaries have appeared in numerous newspapers and have been broadcast on National Public Radio.

Givens was a consulting writer, composer and musical performer for the Emmy Award-winning documentary on the 1904 World's Fair that aired nationally on PBS.

Givens began his career at Washington University in 1992 as senior periodicals editor and served for two years as editor of the award-winning *Washington University Magazine*. After a three-year hiatus in England, where he wrote and taught creative writing, Givens returned to the University in 1997 as assistant to the chancellor.

In this capacity, his responsibilities include managing the Chancellor's Office operations and staff, serving as liaison to internal and external groups, dealing with a wide range of issues and spearheading special projects, including the 2000 and 2004 Presidential Debates that drew more than 1,500 journalists to St. Louis. He co-chaired the Sesquicentennial Celebration in 2003-04.

Givens sits on or chairs numerous University committees and planning groups, frequently representing the University in the community through active involvement in numerous organizations.

His responsibilities were further expanded when he was named assistant vice chancellor and liaison to the Richard A. Gephardt Institute for Public Service in July. Givens will maintain this role with the institute in his new position.



Givens

### An-Chun "Jenny" Chien

Lee Foundation Fellow; National University of Singapore; molecular cell biology in the Graduate School of Arts & Sciences; *Michael W. Sherraden, Ph.D., the Benjamin E. Youngdahl Professor of Social Development at the George Warren Brown School of Social Work.*



### Manoranjan Sahu

Engineering and Environmental Research Group Corporate Fellow; Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay; environmental engineering, Sever Graduate School of Engineering; *Pratim Biswas, Ph.D.*



### Wei-Jen Chua

National Taiwan University; immunology, Graduate School of Arts & Sciences; *David Ho, Ph.D., professor of biology in Arts & Sciences.*



### Yuanming Shan

Emerson Corporate Fellow; Fudan University; electrical and systems engineering, Sever Graduate School of Engineering; *James T. Little, Ph.D.*



### Vikram Govindan

Monsanto/Dr. Norman Borlaug Corporate Fellow; Indian Institute of Technology; M.B.A., Olin School of Business; *Pratim Biswas, Ph.D., the Stifel and Quinette Jens Professor of Environmental Engineering Science.*



### Karavikar Svetasreni

Nestlé Purina PetCare Co. Corporate Fellow; Chulalongkorn University; M.B.A., Olin School of Business; *Gautam N. Yadama, Ph.D., director of international programs and associate professor in the George Warren Brown School of Social Work.*



### Ta-Chih Hsiao

Boeing Corporate Fellow; National Taiwan University; environmental engineering, School of Engineering & Applied Science; *David Ho, Ph.D.*



### Yanjiao Xie

Peking University; environmental engineering, School of Engineering & Applied Science; *Barbara A. Schaal, Ph.D., the Spencer T. Olin Professor in Arts & Sciences in biology.*



### Woosung Kim

Yonsei University; electrical and systems engineering, Sever Graduate School of Engineering; *T.S. Park, M.D., the Shi H. Huang Professor of Neurosurgery and neurosurgeon-in-chief at St. Louis Children's Hospital.*



### Juanyi Yu

Chinese University of Hong Kong; electrical engineering, School of Engineering & Applied Science; *Ping Wang, Ph.D., the Seigle Family Professor in Arts & Sciences and chair of the Department of Economics in Arts & Sciences.*



### Zhou Li

Corning Inc. Corporate Fellow; Fudan University; chemistry, Graduate School of Arts & Sciences; *James T. Little, Ph.D., the Donald Danforth Distinguished Professor in the Olin School of Business.*



### Ziyan Zhang

Tyco Healthcare/Mallinckrodt Corporate Fellow; Peking University; chemistry, Graduate School of Arts & Sciences; *Barbara A. Schaal, Ph.D.*



### Qing Nian

University of Hong Kong; LL.M., School of Law; *Stephen H. Legomsky, J.D., D.Phil., the Charles F. Nagel Professor of International and Comparative Law.*



### Chuanzhen Zhou

Rohm and Haas Corporate Fellow; National University of Singapore; chemistry, Graduate School of Arts & Sciences; *Michael W. Sherraden, Ph.D.*



### Hong Min Park

Seoul National University; political science doctoral program, Graduate School of Arts & Sciences; *T.S. Park, M.D.*



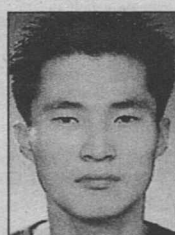
### Ming Zu

Cabot Corp. Corporate Fellow; Tsinghua University; M.B.A., Olin School of Business; *Frank C.P. Yin, M.D., Ph.D., chair and the Stephen F. and Camilla T. Brauer Professor of Biomedical Engineering.*



### Hyun Cheol Roh

Korea University; biology, Graduate School of Arts & Sciences; *T.S. Park, M.D.*



**"Our hope is that 20 years from now, they'll be movers and shakers in global society."**

JAMES V. WERTSCH



## Washington People

**A**lthough breast cancer is more common among white women, African-American women are far more likely to die of the disease.

What accounts for this fundamental racial imbalance? Dione Farria, M.D., knows all too well: African-American women are less likely to get mammograms that can detect breast cancer early when it is more easily treated.

Socioeconomic influences such as limited access to health care, mistrust of the health-care system and the lack of health insurance, both for screening and treatment, play a major role in this disparity.

For Farria, the inequity in breast cancer deaths has been a personal call to action. A radiologist who specializes in breast imaging, she is one of the rare few in the field who also holds a master's degree in public health. Her work to improve the quality of health care for people in less privileged segments of society helps Farria understand the barriers to cancer screening in a way that most radiologists don't.

"Mammography screening for breast cancer is a huge public health issue," says Farria, assistant professor of radiology. "In parts of



Dione Farria, M.D. (left), studies patient radiological images with resident Jennifer Demertzis, M.D. "Dione has a deep and abiding commitment to each project she takes on. But just as important, she has a special ability to connect with people. This skill has contributed greatly to the success of the program in reaching out to the minority community," said Katherine Mathews M.D., co-director of Siteman Cancer Center's Program for the Elimination of Cancer Disparities.

## Breaking down the barriers

Dione Farria battles the racial inequities of breast cancer deaths

By CAROLINE ARBANAS

St. Louis City and North St. Louis County, we see twice as much advanced breast cancer than would be expected.

"Many of these women are not aware of their breast cancer risk or are fearful of getting a mammogram. Those are precisely the women we are trying to reach."

Farria is reaching out to African-Americans, the uninsured and immigrants in the city through the Siteman Cancer Center's Program for the Elimination of Cancer Disparities, a program she co-directs with Katherine Mathews, M.D., assistant professor of obstetrics and gynecology.

In this role, Farria draws on her expertise in breast screening and public health to develop programs that encourage screening for breast cancer and other common cancers with well-established racial disparities — lung, colorectal and prostate.

Through this effort, Farria is determined to overcome the barriers that prevent people from minority backgrounds from getting the cancer screening tests and follow-up care they need.

"Dione has a deep and abiding commitment to each project she takes on," Mathews says. "But just as important, she has a special ability to connect with people. It's not just about the technology or her expertise, but about these personal connections. This skill has contributed greatly to the success of the program in reaching out to the minority community."

**Passion for public health**  
As a Harvard University medical

student, Farria was attracted to radiology, but she almost opted for a career as a pediatrician out of concern that radiology wouldn't provide opportunities to pursue her interest in public health. During her fourth and final year at Harvard, Farria traveled to the West African nation of Liberia for rotations in both pediatric and adult medicine. Although still a student, she spent many nights as the on-call doctor for a 130-bed hospital and its bustling emergency room.

Her first experiences with dying patients, especially children, occurred there.

"I can still recall vividly the wails of the mothers every morning as they mourned the deaths of their children, who had died the night before," she says. "Despite my limited medical training, this was by far the most meaningful and rewarding clinical experience of my career."

It also influenced Farria's decision a decade later to adopt twins — a boy and a girl — from Ethiopia, a country with 5 million orphans. The children, Ethan and Eva, who were six months old when they came to the United States, are now 4 and heading to preschool.

After graduating from medical school in 1989, Farria returned to Liberia as an intern for a rotation in a hospital in Monrovia, and later did a stint at a Navajo pediatric health clinic in New Mexico. But ultimately, she chose radiology as her specialty.

"As a radiologist, you can focus on almost any aspect of medicine," Farria says. The field's rapid growth and evolution due, in part, to new imaging methods, also was an attraction.

After a clinical fellowship in breast imaging at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), Farria decided to merge her training in radiology with her interest in public health by enrolling in UCLA's School of Public Health. Not one to do anything half-heartedly, she also did a second residency in preventive medicine at the same time.

Farria came to WUSTL in 1999, seeking a career in academic medicine. She was drawn by the highly regarded Mallinckrodt Institute of Radiology and the reputation of the medical school, but was equally impressed by the peo-

ple with whom she would be working.

Farria's background in both radiology and public health proved to be just what Washington University was looking for.

"The public health aspects of breast imaging were well known to us," says Barbara Monsees, M.D., the Ronald and Hanna Evens Professor of Women's Health and head of the breast imaging section.

"I believed (Dr. Farria) possessed the skill set, the smarts and the drive to be an outstanding clinician and to address some of the barriers that stand in the way of women getting care."

### Evaluating screening tools

In addition to an active practice in patient care, in which she interprets breast images of all sorts — MRIs, ultrasounds and mammograms — Farria is engaged in clinical trials to evaluate imaging technologies for breast cancer.

She was the local principal investigator of a recent nationwide study that compared digital mammograms to the traditional, film-based scans. Digital mammograms produce images on a computer screen, where they can be enhanced to reveal looming signs of cancer.

The study found that digital mammography was better at detecting cancer in young women and those with dense breasts.

Farria is now the principal investigator at WUSTL for a multicenter study evaluating whether breast screening with ultrasound is better than mammography in detecting breast cancer in high-risk women, including those who are African-American.

Increasingly, she devotes her time to the Program for the Elimination of Cancer Disparities.

When it was established in 2003, Farria's main role was to develop strategies to increase minority enrollment in clinical trials at Siteman.

"We quickly realized that to really increase participation in clinical trials, you really have to have an active presence in the community and provide clinical care, not just research care," Farria said.

Thus began the effort to partner with local organizations and leaders to educate community members about their cancer risks and to provide screening services and follow-up care. These efforts have also increased African-Americans' participation in clinical trials, which is vital to improving

treatment and, ultimately, their survival.

Last year, on the basis of the program's successes, the National Cancer Institute awarded Siteman a five-year, \$1.25 million grant to support ongoing outreach efforts. In St. Louis, the primary target is African-Americans, but programs benefit low-income individuals of all races, as well as immigrants and those living in rural areas.

The breast cancer screening program is the most developed of these efforts.

"We tell all the women, 'Don't let insurance be a barrier. If you come for a mammogram, we will get you one. Don't worry if you don't have the money,'" Farria says.

Thanks to generous funding from philanthropic groups, the University can pay for mammograms for poor women, even if they don't qualify for Medicaid.

"Many women worry that if breast cancer is detected, they can't afford the care. We make sure they will get the proper treatment and follow-up care," she said.

When Farria's not working, she enjoys swimming at the YMCA with her children or taking them to the park or a movie. She likes to spend time with her two dogs and takes pleasure in her African-American women's book club.

A New Orleans native, Farria has spent the past year providing help and encouragement to her extended family, many of whom were displaced after Hurricane Katrina ravaged the area. Four family members even stayed with Farria while they were getting back on their feet. But she considers her family lucky, all survived the storm and many are working their way back to the city.

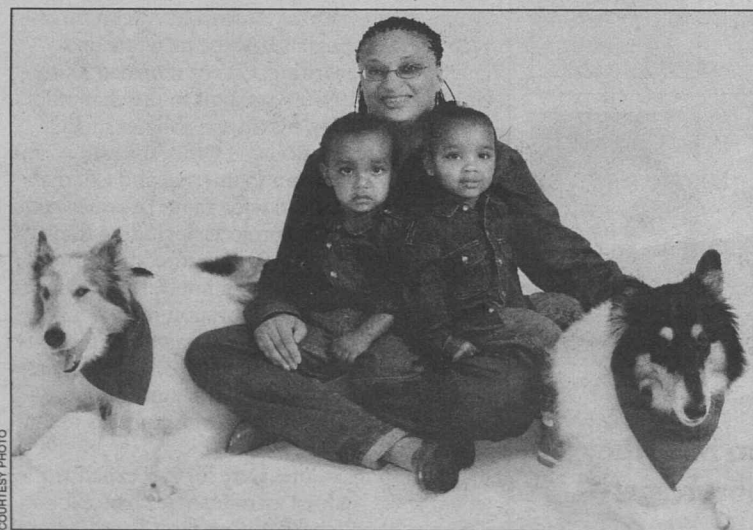
### Dione Farria, M.D.

**Education:** Bachelor's degree in chemistry, Xavier University of Louisiana, 1985; medical degree, Harvard Medical School, 1989; master's degree in public health, University of California, Los Angeles, 1997

**Family:** Twins Ethan (4) and Eva (4)

**Hobbies/Interests:** Her dogs Duste and Gypsy (especially enjoys taking them for a trek through an obstacle course), gardening, church activities, reading and French

**Favorite recent books:** *Your Best Life Now* by Joel Osteen, *The Watsons Go to Birmingham* by Christopher Paul Curtis, *Memoirs of a Geisha* by Arthur Golden



From left: Duste the dog, Ethan, Dione Farria, Eva, and Gypsy the dog.